

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER  
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM  
FISCAL YEAR 2011**

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**Project Details**

**1. Project title:**

Our House Technology Project

**2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds):**

Our House of Portland, Inc.  
2727 SE Alder  
Portland, OR 97214

**3. Contact information**

- a. **Project's primary contact:** Wayne Miya
- b. **Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** 503-595-6130/ [REDACTED]
- c. **Email Address:** wmiya@ourhouseofportland.org
- d. **Project location** (if different than organization's address):  
Scattered sites

**4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.**

Our House provides a continuum of health care, housing and community services options for low-income people with HIV/AIDS for Oregon and Southwest Washington. We provide:

- 14 bed 24-hour specialized nursing care at Our House (residential care facility),
- 5-bed Adult Foster Care at Swan House,
- Rental Assistance and supportive services at scattered sites throughout the Portland Metro Area through our Neighborhood Housing and Care Program (NHCP) for about 30 people each year
- A free food bank (Esther's Pantry) and free thrift store (Tod's Corner) for low income HIV/AIDS Clients that serves about 700 people each year
- Payment of pet care services, cremations and other miscellaneous needs that cannot be met through any other source.

In 2009, Our House was ranked among the 100 Best Non-Profits to work for in Oregon by Oregon Business Magazine.

**5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?**

Private non-profit

**6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?**

HRSA

**7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).**

The computerization of our records began in 2004 after the award of a Special Projects of National Significance grant from the federal government. One of only 10 awarded in that cycle, the program was chosen for its innovation and link to reduce and eliminate homelessness. The impetus for this grant arose out of the changing needs of individuals living with HIV/AIDS. As the health of the Our House residents began to improve, the staff saw a need for a housing and healthcare option that provided financial assistance and clinical supervision. At the same time, we saw a need to be able to conveniently access and update important clinical records and the opportunity to create an integrated computerized infrastructure. We created a basic web-based database which stored key information about the residents and clients as well as provided critical reports for management and regulatory agencies. At that time we purchased laptops, PDA's, and other computer equipment so that our staff could access and enter information remotely.

Much of that equipment is now in need of replacement and upgrading. The database is in need of updating and expansion to cover all of our programs and our website requires updating to meet additional requirements from foundations, federal agencies and management information. Because we are located in different locations, and have around the clock shifts, we would also like to increase our utilization of distance learning tools so that we are not all required to meet in one location (or time) to attend meetings or classes.

The population that we serve is very complicated. All participants in our residential programs are located in the Portland-metropolitan area, are infected with HIV/AIDS, live below the poverty line, are disabled, at risk of homelessness, and range in age and ethnicity. Of the current participants, 41% have a history of substance abuse, 14% have a history of chronic homelessness, 82% have a mental illness and 82% have a co-occurring disorder.

Because of these issues, access to current information and resources are critical to the effective care of our residents and clients. An improved infrastructure of computer and communications equipment as well as database and web development will significantly improve the quality and efficiency of care.

Our request will be for equipment, software and development costs. Specifically for:

- Laptops and software for staff in our Neighborhood Housing and Care Program for remote data access and entry from client housing or other remote locations.
- Smart Phones and mobile technology for scheduling, communications, messaging and data access for NHCP staff
- Database and software development for medical records of clients and residents of Our House programs
- Remote access to medical and nursing staff for consultation – including video conferencing.
- Web development including video development to provide information about programs, clients and residents. Video development for distance learning.

**8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?**

This project will provide updated computer and communications infrastructure including equipment, web sites, and databases to:

- Improve communications with staff, providers and residents/clients
- Increase accuracy and timeliness of medical records and other pertinent client data
- Improve availability to update and access client information
- Increase effectiveness of training and utilize technology to make training available at other venues and at “off hours”
- Allow Our House to more easily interface with other providers
- Increase the timeliness and accuracy of data to management, foundations and government agencies
- Makes our web-site more user friendly and accessible
- Provides more information to the public through videos and key performance data
- Improves service to residents and clients
- Streamlines processes which ultimately allow us to serve more people

This project will create additional work for contractors whose expertise is in database design, web design and video production.

**9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?**

No

**9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.**

**Funding Details**

**10. Amount requested for this project:**

\$100,000

**11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):**

<b>Laptops</b>	\$ 9,000
<b>Desktops</b>	\$ 9,000
<b>Servers</b>	\$ 2,000
<b>Salaries, etc.</b>	\$ 50,000
<b>Hardware</b>	\$ 3,000
<b>iPhones</b>	\$ 2,000
<b>Application Development</b>	\$ 25,000
<b>\$ 100,000</b>	

**12. What is the total cost of the project?**

<b>Laptops</b>	\$ 9,850
<b>Desktops</b>	\$ 9,250
<b>Servers</b>	\$ 17,250
<b>Salaries, etc.</b>	\$ 85,320
<b>Hardware</b>	\$ 4,600
<b>iPhones</b>	\$ 2,280
<b>Application Development</b>	\$ 27,500
<b>\$ 156,050</b>	

**13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011?)?**

Yes, we can still use these funds as leverage for other sources as we apply for grants and request funding from individuals and corporations.

**14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)**

Boeing Employees	\$ 5,000
HUD (HOPWA)	\$ 10,000
Individuals and Corporations	\$ 41,000

**15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.**

Since our Neighborhood Housing and Care Program is a primary beneficiary of this project, I've included letters of support from the following: Providence Health Systems, Cascade AIDS Project, Partnership Project (OHSU), Quest Center for Integrative Health, Oregon Healthcare Association (OHCA), Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare, Multnomah County and City of Portland.